

THE CANADIAN MILITARY GAZETTE.

(SUCCESSOR TO THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE.)

VOL. VII.
No. 36.

MONTREAL, 1st NOVEMBER, 1892.

Subscription \$2.00 Yearly.
Single Copies 10 Cents.

LIEUT.-COL. THE HON. J. A. OUIMET.

Lieut.-Col., the Hon. Joseph Alderic Ouimet, L.L.B., Q.C., M.P., P.C., Minister of Public Works, is a member of one of the oldest families in the Montreal district. He is a son of Mr. Michael Ouimet, J.P., and was born at St. Rose, P.Q., on May 20th, 1848. His education was received at the Seminary of Ste. Therese de Blainville and Victoria College, Cobourg, where he graduated in 1869 with the degree of L.L.B. Having chosen the law as his profession he was called to the Quebec Bar in 1879, and has since pursued an eminently successful legal career. He was appointed a Queen's Council in 1880, when he was also appointed Crown Prosecutor, jointly with Mr., now Judge, Charles P. Davidson. They both filled that very important office with the greatest efficiency and honour until 1878. Col. Ouimet has always taken an active interest in military affairs, and rose to the rank of Lieut.-Col. of the 65th Battalion, Mount Royal Rifles, which he commanded during the North-west rebellion in 1885. His battalion was in the field in the Edmonton district, and Lieut.-Col. Ouimet rendered valuable service in pacifying the Indians and prevailing upon the half-breeds to maintain their loyalty to the Government. Col. Ouimet has been for the last three years, and is yet, chairman of the Council of the Dominion Rifle Association, and has always been a warm friend of that organization. The parliamentary experience of Col. Ouimet, for a man of his years, has been remarkably long and successful. In October, 1873, when only 25 years old, he was returned to parliament after a fierce fight, against Mr. L. O. David, one of the brightest champions of the Liberal party. He was re-elected by acclamation at the general elections of 1874, and again in 1878 and 1887. He was also returned in 1891, and from 13th April, 1887, to the close of the 6th parliament in 1891, he held the honourable position of Speaker of the House of



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amply fitted him. On the 20th of May, 1891, his 44th birthday, he was sworn a member of Her Majesty's Privy Council for Canada, and on the subsequent re-arrangement of the Cabinet was entrusted with the important portfolio of Public Works.

THE ROYAL FAMILY.

A "Member of Parliament," London correspondent of the *New York Herald*, states that the general opinion as to the incapacity of Queen Victoria's sons who are in the army and navy is quite at fault, and says: "So far from being negligent or ignorant, all these persons have worked hard to fit themselves for their positions, and they are quite on a level point in technical proficiency with their brother officers. There is no better sailor, for instance, in the Royal Navy than the Duke of Edinburgh. Every branch of the service is familiar to him. The Duke of Connaught was a cadet at Woolwich when only sixteen, and from that day to this he has been performing military duties." Of the Duke of Cambridge, Commander-in-Chief, this correspondent says: "When he came not long ago before a select Parliamentary Committee to give his views on the condition of the army, he was at first looked upon with great suspicion by the radical members of the committee, who expected to see him bowled over at the first few questions. It soon became evident that there was no detail connected with the army, from the cost of the private soldier's boots to the actual strength of the entire British forces, which he had not at his fingers' ends. He knew his business thoroughly and answered the questions without hesitation. He was found to be absolutely right in all his facts, and proved beyond doubt that he took the deepest interest in the welfare of the rank and file, and wanted to see them treated more liberally in many respects, but had no power in the matter."